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Patent Case No. IN01155K

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Venkatraman, *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/836,636

Group Art Unit: 1653

Filed: April 17, 2001

Examiner: D. Lukton

For: MACROCYCLIC NS-3-SERINE PROTEASE INHIBITORS OF HEPATITIS C
VIRUS COMPRISING ALKYL AND ARYL ALANINE P2 MOIETIES

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

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Marked-Up Amendment Under 37 C.F.R §1.121

Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Marked-Up Amendment is being sent in response to the Office Communication dated April 10, 2002 in the instant case. In the Communication, the Examiner enclosed a Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (37 C.F.R. 1.121) and required the filing of a marked-up version of the replacement paragraphs/sections that were filed as Preliminary Amendment on March 19, 2002. The following Marked-Up Amendment shows all changes made to the specification in that Preliminary Amendment.

The Office is authorized to charge any fee deficiency or credit any excess in the fees due with this document to our deposit account no. 19-0365.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the last full paragraph of page 192 with the following:

Assay for HCV Protease Inhibitory Activity:

Spectrophotometric Assay: Spectrophotometric assays for the HCV serine protease was performed on the inventive compounds by following the procedure described by R. Zhang *et al*, *Analytical Biochemistry*, 270 (1999) 268-275, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference. The assay based on the proteolysis of chromogenic ester substrates is suitable for the continuous monitoring of HCV NS3 protease activity. The substrates were derived from the P side of the NS5A-NS5B junction sequence (Ac-DTEDEVVX(Nva); SEQ ID NO: 1); where X = A or P) whose C-terminal carboxyl groups were esterified with one of four different-